

Judge Ronald B. Leighton

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SEATTLE

JAN 25 2012

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON  
AT TACOMA

UNDER SEAL,

Plaintiff,

No. C09-5301 RBL

v.

FILED UNDER SEAL

UNDER SEAL,

Defendants.



09-CV-05301-PRO

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON  
AT TACOMA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, *ex rel.*  
CRAIG THOMAS,

Plaintiff,

v.

SOUND INPATIENT PHYSICIANS, INC., and  
ROBERT A. BESSLER,

Defendants.

No. C09-5301 RBL

**FILED UNDER SEAL**

**ORDER**

The United States has filed an *Ex Parte* Motion for an Extension of time to Consider Election to Intervene, in which the government seeks a 90-day extension of time, until April 21, 2012, in which to notify the Court whether it intends to intervene in this *qui tam* lawsuit. Such an extension of time is expressly contemplated by the False Claims Act, which provides that the United States "may, for good cause shown move the Court for extensions of time. . . ." 13 U.S.C. § 3730(b)(3). The Court finds that such good cause exists here.

Accordingly, it is hereby ORDERED that the United States shall have until April 21, 2012, to notify the Court of its decision whether or not to intervene in this *qui tam* action. The Clerk shall otherwise maintain the Complaint and other filings under seal for the duration of the government's investigation, unless otherwise ordered by the Court.

1 DATED this 25<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2012.

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3 Ronald B. Leighton  
4 RONALD B. LEIGHTON  
5 United States District Judge

6 Presented by:

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8 Harold A. Malkin  
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10 HAROLD A. MALKIN  
Assistant United States Attorney